




UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/613,624	07/03/2003	Takashi Mizuno	09792909-5653	4347
26263	7590	08/20/2004	EXAMINER	
SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP			DANG, TRUNG Q	
P.O. BOX 061080			ART UNIT	
WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER			PAPER NUMBER	
CHICAGO, IL 60606-1080			2823	

DATE MAILED: 08/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/613,624	MIZUNO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Trung Dang	2823	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uemura et al. (US 2002/0043331 A1) in view of the admitted prior art.

Uemura et al. teach a method of manufacturing a semiconductor device including a laser chip comprising the steps of : irradiating a semiconductor chip with an energy beam having a shorter wavelength than an oscillation wavelength of the laser chip (paragraph [0021], paragraph [0070]). See paragraph [0031] for the group III nitride compound semiconductor device includes a laser diode, i.e, the semiconductor chip is a laser chip. Also see paragraph and [0017] for the irradiating UV ray having wavelength of 172 nm, which is a shorter wavelength than an oscillation wavelength of the laser chip (Xe excimer laser lamp light generates UV ray having wavelength of 172 nm).

The difference between Uemura et al. and the claims is that while Uemura et al. irradiate the laser chips with UV ray after the chips are cut from the wafer, independent claim 1 calls for irradiating a base having a laser chip mounted thereon.

The admitted prior art teaches it is conventional in the art of semiconductor device processing that after laser chips are cut from the wafer, separated laser chips are mounted on a base (a package) (see page 1 of the present specification).

The subject matter as a whole would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Uemura et al. by irradiating the laser chips with UV ray after the chips are mounted on a base because whether irradiating UV ray on unmounted chips or mounted chips the same result would be achieved since it is the chips, not the base, that are in effect (e.g., the removal of organic contaminants on the chips).

For claim 2, it is obvious that semiconductor devices are sealed off from the surrounding environment after manufacture in order to protect and to put the devices in practical use. Such practice is within a common knowledge of one skilled in the art.

For claim 3, see paragraph [0030].

For claim 4, it is inherent that the laser chip of Uemura et al. would have an oscillation wavelength of 550 nm or less because, like the present invention, it is manufactured using nitride semiconductor layers.

For claim 5, excimer lamp in the reference is a Xe excimer laser lamp light that generates UV ray having wavelength of 172 nm.

As for claims 6, although Uemura et al. disclose an energy beam (UV ray) treatment method, Uemura et al. also disclose that conventional oxygen plasma treatment method is feasible but the oxygen plasma treatment requires controlling the treatment time exactly (paragraph [0021]). The subject matter as a whole would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to irradiate the base having a laser chip mounted thereon with oxygen plasma because it is recognized that irradiating the chip with oxygen plasma is also applicable but merely requires exact control of the irradiation time.

For claims 7-10, see the above references to claims 2-5, respectively.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trung Dang whose telephone number is 571-272-1857. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Olik Chaudhuri can be reached on 571-272-1855. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Trung Dang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2823

08/08/04

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trung Dang', is written over the printed name and title.